All India Small and Medium Newspapers Federation, (AISMNF) urged the Government to withdraw the Press and Registration of Books (Amendment) Bill; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) In the memorandum submitted to the Prime Minister, the All India Small and Medium Newspapers Federation, *inter alia*, has taken strong exception to certain provisions of the Press and Registration of Books (Amendment) Bill, 1988.

(b) Government have taken note of the views of the Federation.

**Setting up of Sate Finance Commission**

2676. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Council for Local Government and Urban Development have since suggested some suitable proposal to amend the Constitution of the country to provide for setting up State Finance Commission for sytematic devolution of funds from the State Government to local bodies:

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the Council also suggested that local bodies be permitted to impose property tax on the Central and State Government properties; and

(d) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. The resolutions have been forwarded to State Governments for their reaction

(c) Yes.

(d) Article 285 of the Constitution exempts the properties of the Union Government from the property tax imposed by State or any authority within the State, and that includes local bodies.

**Creation of employment in rural areas**

2677. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed a target of creating about 245 million mandays of employment in the rural areas during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) to what extent the target has since been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) A target for generating 2458 million mandays of employment in rural areas under National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (1445 million mandays under NERP & 1013 million mandays under RLEGP) has been fixed for the seventh Plan (1985-90). As against this, employment generated under these Programmes so far is 2384.38 million mandays.

**राज्यों को तिलहनों की आपूर्ति**

2678. **श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विभिन्न राज्य सरकारें राष्ट्रीय तिलहन विकास योजना को कार्यान्वित कर रही हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राज्यों को वांछनीय किस्म के बीजों की समय पर उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित कराने के लिए सरकार ने क्या उपाय किए हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि कई राज्यों में तिलहन उपलब्ध न होने के कारण 1988 के खरीफ मौसम के दौरान